

ABSTRACT

Optical pick-up units and laser drivers are disclosed, which can be used in various types of information recording/reproducing apparatuses, such as, but not limited to, DVD and CD drives, DVD camcorders, and DVD video recorders. A laser driver integrated circuit (LDIC) includes an automatic power controller, a running optical power controller, and a write strategy generator. The LDIC can be part of a chip-set, to be located on an optical pick-up unit (OPU). The chip-set can also include a power monitor integrated circuit (PMIC) to monitor the laser diode, and a photo-detector integrated circuit (PDIC) to detect light produced by the laser diode. The PMIC and the PDIC each include their own offset, gain and sample-and-hold circuitry.